about 1 to 2% are known to be suffering from mental retardation and 0.5% of the same age group suffers from serious mental retardation.

(b) A provision of Rs. 190 crores has been made during the Tenth Five Year Plan for implementation of National Mental Health Programme by the Government.

(c) There are over 18,000 beds for psychiatric patients spread across 37 Government mental hospitals/hospitals affiliated to the medical colleges. There are over 3000 qualified psychiatrists, 500 clinical psychologists, 300 psychiatric social workers and about 600 trained psychiatric nurses in the country. Availability of psychotropic drugs is satisfactory and the cost of such drugs is reasonable/affordable.

Adulterated Chilly Powder

2079. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that chilly powder exported from India to Britain particularly its retail chains Asda, Safeway and Sainsbury's alongwith the food companies Unilever Bestfoods, Favourite, Shads and Mr. Browns are forced to pull back by some of the best selling brands;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these are adulterated with a carcinogenic dye used for colouring waxes, shoe polish and petrol; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) Although chilly is a notified commodity under the Export [Quality Control & Inspection] Act, 1963, due to trade liberalization, exemptions have been given to various categories of exporters from compulsory pre-shipment inspection and quality control.

In view of the above, consignments of exports from India are not being offered for inspection to Export Inspection Agencies. As per the information made available by Ministry of Commerce, reportedly consumer products bearing brand names Favourite, Shads and Mr. Browns are reported to have been recalled from retail chains. These are not chilly powder directly exported from India but preparations containing chilly powder. However, no details have so far been received

establishing that recalled products were exclusively made from chilly or chilly products imported from India.

Refusal of treatment at AIIMS

†2080. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that AIIMS had refused to provide bed to Commando Surjan Singh who was injured during terrorist attack on Akshardham tample;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government against the erring employees; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to check this kind of situation in future?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Free treatment for AIDS in Government Hospitals

2081. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to provide ARV (anti-retroviral) drugs free to AIDS patients in Government hospitals from April, 2004;

(b) the estimated number of AIDS patients at present, State-wise;

(c) whether the scheme is expected to cover only one lakh patients and the amount likely to be spent thereon;

(d) the assistance that would be provided by WHO; and

(e) by whom this scheme is proposed to be extended to all patients and the steps to ensure benefit to all patients?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Yes Sir. Government is actively

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.